



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	January 6, 2006	Interpretation #	05-037
Topic	Occupiable Spaces		
Code Section(s)	2001 California Building Code, Section 216-0		
Requested by	Al Puskas National Fail-Safe 6442 Industry Way Westminster, CA 92683		

You have an interpretation numbered 04-031, but I would like to have further clarification on this as follows:

In other than Group I Occupancies, for single-story buildings smoke detectors shall be installed at ceilings throughout all occupied areas and mechanical/electric spaces.

I have three questions:

- 1) ***Since mechanical/electrical spaces were specifically named, does that mean that they are normally not considered occupied spaces?***

Yes. Mechanical/electrical spaces are not normally considered occupied.

- 2) ***Are restrooms, closets and storage rooms in this case considered as occupied?***

No. Public restrooms, closets and storage rooms are not considered occupied spaces. However, these spaces should be provided with smoke detectors when special egress devices are installed.

- 3) ***Uniform Building Code Section 216-O defines occupiable areas as follows: "Occupiable is a room or enclosed space design for human occupancy in which individuals congregate for amusement, educational or similar purposes, or in which occupants are engaged at labor, and which is equipped with means of egress, light and ventilation". Could this be used as a guide line to identify occupied areas?***

Yes.